Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0144] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] Based on the results with the IMS oligonucleotide demonstrating the benefit of the GpG sequences in reducing disease severity and in producing a Th2 shift in the autoreactive T cell population, we have created a modified vector incorporating GpG sequences within the vector backbone. We began with the pVAX1 vector (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) which is the plasmid vector predominantly used in our EAE experiments, and which has been designed to meet all of the regulatory requirements for use in humans. We then examined the vector for CpG motifs that match the known human CpG motif consensus for immune stimulation, that is Pu-Py-C-G-Py-Py. We determined that on one strand of pVAX1, there are 16 such CpG elements. Using site-directed mutagenesis we modified 12 of those sites as summarized on Table 1. The remaining CpG sites occurred within important control regions of the vector and, therefore, were not modified. Where possible the C in the CpG motif was changed to a G to match the sequence motif of the GpG oligo sequences used in the IMS oligonucleotide. This was done at four of the 12 modified sites. The other eight sites were modified not to a GpG but in such a way that the C within the CpG motif was changed to either an A or a T. In this way, the potentially Th1 driving immunostimulatory CpG motif was removed. The vector thus constructed has been named pBHT1, deposited with American Type Culture Collection (ATCC®), 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209 USA, under ATCC Deposit No. PTA-10152, on June 26, 2009.